

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EPAE-00 INT-05 CEQ-01 STR-07
L-03 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 EA-12
FRB-01 INR-10 IO-14 NEA-11 NSAE-00 ICA-20 OPIC-06
SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00 OMB-01 SS-15
DOE-15 SOE-02 NRC-07 ACDA-12 HEW-06 NSF-02 NSC-05
HUD-02 /198 W

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P R 272111Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3950
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 20477

USOECD

FOR OES/EN, PASS EPA, OSHA, CPSC, COMMERCE, AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: SENV, OECD
SUBJECT: MEETING ON THE PART II PROGRAM FOR STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR THE CONTROL OF CHEMICALS, JUNE 21-23.

REF: PARIS 17498

SUMMARY: SEVENTEEN COUNTRIES & THE EC COMMISSION MET IN RESPONSE TO THE INVITATION ISSUED BY THE OECD TO PARTICIPATE IN A PART II PROGRAM ON CONTROL OF TOXIC CHEMICALS (ENV/D/88). AGREEMENT WAS REACHED BY 16 COUNTRIES TO MODIFIED STATUTES ON THE CONTROL OF CHEMICALS (ANNEX A TO ENV/D/88) IN WHICH THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE WAS CHARGED WITH TAKING DUE ACCOUNT OF THE ON-GOING PART I WORK IN THE CHEMICALS GROUP, SUBMITTING TO THE OECD COUNCIL THE ANNUAL BUDGET, DETERMINING

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SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS OF PARTICIPANTS, AND PROVIDING REPORTS & PROPOSALS OF THE WORK OF THE PART II PROGRAM, SUCH REPORTS & PROPOSALS ALSO TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE. THE PARTICIPANTS THEN AGREED TO A PART II PROGRAM INVOLVING L.74 MILLION FRENCH FRANCS SUPPORTING THE GOOD LABORATORY PRACTICES & CONFIDENTIALITY PROJECTS (DOWN FROM THE ORIGINALLY PROPOSED 3.8

MILLION FRANCS & 4 PROJECTS WHICH ALSO INCLUDED WORK ON INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND INTERNATIONAL GLOSSARY OF KEY TERMS). EACH PARTICIPATING COUNTRY AGREED TO CONTRIBUTE ACCORDING TO ITS OECD PERCENTAGE BASED ON RELATIVE G.N. P. THE U.S. CONTRIBUTION AMOUNTED TO APPROXIMATELY 436,000 FRANCS IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR 25 PERCENT CEILING. END SUMMARY.

1. THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES WERE: AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA BELGIUM, CANADA, DENMARK, FINLAND, FRANCE, FRG, JAPAN, NORWAY, NETHERLANDS, NEW ZEALAND, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, SPAIN, UNITED KINGDOM & THE U.S. THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES ALSO PARTICIPATED. OPENING STATEMENTS REVEALED THAT THE U.S., CANADA, U.K., SWEDEN AND AUSTRALIA WERE IN STRONG SUPPORT OF THE PART II EFFORT. FRG INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT ITS SUPPORT WAS LIMITED TO 320,000 FRANCS. FRANCE'S CONTRIBUTION WAS ALSO LIMITED TO 250,000 FRANCS, LESS THAN ITS OECD PERCENTAGE. SWEDEN, AND AUSTRALIA EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE MORE THAN THEIR REGULAR SCALE OF OECD CONTRIBUTIONS. THE U.S. AGREED TO A 25 PERCENT CONTRIBUTION, BUT HAD RESERVATIONS ON THE TOTAL MAGNITUDE OF THE OECD PROPOSAL. JAPAN, WHILE GREATLY INTERESTED, COULD NOT CONTRIBUTE SINCE THIS REQUIRED APPROVAL OF THE DIET, WHOSE NEXT MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1979. THE CEC INDICATED A WILLINGNESS TO CONTRIBUTE 50,000 UNCLASSIFIED

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FRANCS. DISCUSSION BEGAN ON THE LANGUAGE OF THE STATUTES WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT RESOLUTION OF DIFFERENCES OF OPINION.

2. THE SECOND DAY OF THE MEETING BEGAN WITH A CAUCUS CALLED BY THE CEC WITH THE U.S. DELEGATION ON LANGUAGE OF THE STATUTES PERTAINING TO RELATIONSHIPS AMONG THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE PART II PROGRAM, THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE & THE OECD COUNCIL. THE PRIMARY DIFFERENCE WAS BETWEEN THOSE WHO HELD THAT THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE SHOULD REPORT TO THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE, AS OPPOSED TO THOSE (US) WHO HELD THAT THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE SHOULD REPORT TO THE OECD COUNCIL. AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE WAS REACHED, USING LANGUAGE AGREED TO AT THE 22ND SESSION OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE, FAVORING THE U.S. VIEWS. THE REPORTING ROLE OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE WAS FURTHER OUTLINED IN THE STATUTES BY STATING THAT THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE SHALL PREPARE THE ANNUAL PROGRAM OF THE PROJECT, (TAKING DUE ACCOUNT OF ON-GOING WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION), THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND, WHEN NECESSARY, THE SCALE

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OF CONTRIBUTIONS, AND SHALL SUBMIT PROPOSALS EACH YEAR TO THE OECD COUNCIL. REPORTS AND PROPOSALS FOR APPROPRIATE ACTION SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE OECD COUNCIL, WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY REPORTING TO THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE. THE LEGAL ADVISOR TO THE SECRETARIAT WILL PROVIDE FINAL LANGUAGE REFLECTING THESE AGREEMENTS AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE FOLLOWING THE MEETING. WITH REGARD TO THE SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE PART II PROGRAM, THE LIMITED CONTRIBUTIONS OF FRG & FRANCE ACTED TO DAMPEN THE PROPOSED FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF SEVERAL OTHER COUNTRIES. THE U.S. WAS SILENT ON THIS POINT, HOLDING THE VIEW THAT THE ORIGINAL PROPOSAL OF 3.8 MILLION FRANCS WAS CONSIDERABLY TOO HIGH. THE SECRETARIAT WAS THEN INSTRUCTED TO PREPARE A SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 16 OF THE 17 COUNTRIES (JAPAN EXCLUDED) FOR DISCUSSION ON THE THIRD DAY, WITH THE OVERALL FRAME OF REFERENCE TO BE PEGGED AT THE 320,000 FRANCS FRG CONTRIBUTION EQUIVALENT TO THEIR NORMAL OECD-PERCENTAGE, AND THE OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS.

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TIONS TO BE FIXED TO THEIR NORMAL OECD PERCENTAGES.
THE FINAL SUM WOULD THEN DETERMINE THE SIZE OF THE
PART II PROGRAM.

3. THE THIRD DAY OF THE MEETING SAW A BRIEF RETURN TO
THE DISCUSSION OF STATUTES AGREED ON DURING THE PREVIOUS
SESSION, WITHOUT CHANGING THE FINAL OUTCOME FOR THE
REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS. THE SECRETARIAT THEN PRE-
SENTED THE SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS PEGGED TO THE FRG
LEVEL AS FOLLOWS: AUSTRALIA 65,395; AUSTRIA 27,029;
BELGIUM 48,130; CANADA 128,174; DENMARK 25,460; FINLAND
19,880; FRANCE 239,433; FRG 320,000; NETHERLANDS
63,128; NEW ZEALAND 11,160; NORWAY 20,752; SPAIN
78,997; SWEDEN 50,397; SWITZERLAND 44,991; U.K.
164,970; U.S. 435,967. THE EC WAS NOT LISTED, ALTHOUGH
THEY OFFERED 50,000 FRANCS. JAPAN WAS EXCLUDED SINCE
THEY COULD NOT COMMIT FUNDS AT THIS TIME. THE SECRETA-
RIAT STATED THAT THE NUMBERS WERE NOT PRECISE, BUT THAT
THEY INDICATED A PROGRAM LEVEL OF APPROXIMATELY L.74
MILLION FRANCS. THIS WOULD ALLOW ONLY FOR THE GOOD
LABORATORY PRACTICES AND CONFIDENTIALITY PROJECTS.
THESE PROJECTS WERE THE TWO HIGHEST PRIORITIES OF
THE U.S. THE U.S. AND FRANCE RESPECTIVELY HAD VOLUN-
TEERED AS LEAD COUNTRIES FOR THESE PROJECTS ON THE FIRS
FIRST DAY OF THE MEETING. AFTER A PROLONGED DISCUSSION,
THE SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS WAS AGREED UPON, AS WELL AS
AN AUSTRALIAN PROPOSAL WHICH DIRECTED THAT THE COUNCIL
BE ASKED TO CONSIDER REQUESTING THE SECRETARY GENERAL
TO COMMENCE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE FRG WITH A VIEW TO
PROVIDING AN AUGMENTED BUDGET FOR THE FIRST YEAR UNDER
WHICH THE FRG WOULD ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR UNDERTA-
KING PART OF THE PROGRAM RELATING TO THE INTERNATIO-
NAL GLOSSARY.

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4. THE NEXT SEQUENCE OF EVENTS WILL HAVE THE SECRETA-
RIAT PROVIDE THE PARTICIPANTS WITH THE FINAL LANGUAGE
OF THE STATUTES AND A REFINED SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS.
THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE OECD IS
SCHEDULED TO MEET THE FIRST WEEK IN JULY, AT WHICH
TIME THE RESULTS OF THE PART II MEETING ON CHEMICALS
ARE EXPECTED TO BE ADDRESSED.

5. ACTION: MISSION REQUESTS DEPARTMENT INSTRUCTIONS
ON U.S. POSITION REGARDING SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS,
REVISED SCOPE OF PART II PROGRAM, ROLE OF MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE AND ANY OTHER ASPECTS OF OUTCOME OF MEETING

REPORTED IN THIS MESSAGE.

SALZMAN.

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